

## Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 EB-04 COME-00 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 NIC-01

SAM-01 FEA-01 /061 W

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R 310355Z OCT 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2629

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, CH, US, PFOR

SUBJECT: MR. BUSH CALLS ON LI CH'ANG

1. MR. BUSH PAID HIS INTRODUCTORY CALL ON PRC FOREIGN  
TRADE MINISTER LI CH'ANG OCTOBER 30. LI WAS CORDIAL AND  
RELAXED, BUT GENERALLY UNSUBSTANTIVE IN HIS REMARKS.

2. LI NOTED THAT SINO-US TRADE HAS DEVELOPED WELL SINCE THE  
ISSUANCE OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE AND THAT "WE HAVE BOUGHT  
MUCH FROM YOU." HE EMPHASIZED THAT THERE SHOULD BE EFFORTS ON  
BOTH SIDES TO INCREASE TRADE, APPARENTLY IMPLYING THAT THE  
US SHOULD DO MORE TO RAISE ITS PURCHASING FROM THE PRC. HE DID  
NOT PRESS THE ISSUE, HOWEVER, AND EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH  
MR. BUSH THAT ONE BENEFIT OF SENDING A CCPIT DELEGATION TO THE US  
WOULD  
BE TO INCREASE CHINESE UNDERSTANDING OF THE US MARKET THEREBY  
INCREASING SALES TO THE US. ON THE TIMING OF THE CCPIT MISSION,  
HOWEVER, HE WAS NON-COMMITAL. "WE INTEND TO SEND THIS DELEGATION,"  
HE SAID, BUT "NOT THIS YEAR."

3. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION OF MR. BUSH'S PAST WORK IN THE US  
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OIL BUSINESS, LI SEEMED INTERESTED IN HEARING ABOUT VARIOUS

ASPECTS OF OFFSHORE DRILLING WORK, BUT HE MADE LITTLE EFFORT TO RESPOND CONCERNING CHINA'S WORK IN THIS FIELD. CHINA IS STILL A SMALL EXPORTER OF OIL, HE SAID, AND MUCH WORK MUST BE DONE TO BUILD PORT FACILITIES WHICH CAN HANDLE LARGE TANKERS. ASKED IF THE PRC HAS PURCHASED OFFSHORE LOADING BUOYS FOR THIS PURPOSE, HE SAID IT IS CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING WITH A NON-US SUPPLIER (PRESUMABLY JAPAN) FOR EQUIPMENT OF THIS SORT. HE ADDED THAT CHINA HAS PURCHASED VARIOUS KINDS OF OFFSHORE DRILLING RIGS, INCLUDING EQUIPMENT WHICH CAN DRILL AT A DEPTH OF 30 METERS, AND THAT MOST OF THIS EQUIPMENT HAS COME FROM JAPAN.

4. DURING THE CONVERSATION, MR. BUSH SAID SINO-US TRADE WAS OF SUFFICIENT IMPORTANCE TO WARRANT OCCASIONAL MEETINGS BETWEEN THE TWO MEN TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT. AGAIN LI WAS NON-COMMITTAL, SAYING THAT SUCH MEETINGS COULD BE HELD, "IF NECESSARY."  
BUSH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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